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APR 28 2004

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Attorney Docket 103

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application:
Applicant: Joseph J. Solon
S.N. 10/005,696
Filed: Dec. 7, 2001

ART UNIT 3724
EXAMINER ISAAC H. HAMILTON

TITLE: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING RECLAIMED
TIRE TREAD STRIPS

To The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks:

Re: **TIMELY RESPONSE TO Final Rejection of April 21, 2004**

Via Fax 703-872-9306 April 28, 2004

Dear Sir:

REMARKS

This Response is within two months of the Final Rejection and thus an advisory action is expected.

In view of the Examiner's clarification of his rejection grounds based upon the premise that the Claim 10 and 12 limitations were merely claiming an intended use of the apparatus wherein there was no limiting structure of the tread strips, Claim 10 is amended to positively claim the novel structural features of applicant's system. The Examiner may now give patentable merit to the novel tire tread processing equipment. It is noted that none of the cited references in any way teaches the processing of flexible tire tread strips having tire tread and opposing inner casing surfaces.

The withdrawal of Claims 11, 14, 15 and 18, all dependent upon Claim 10 was